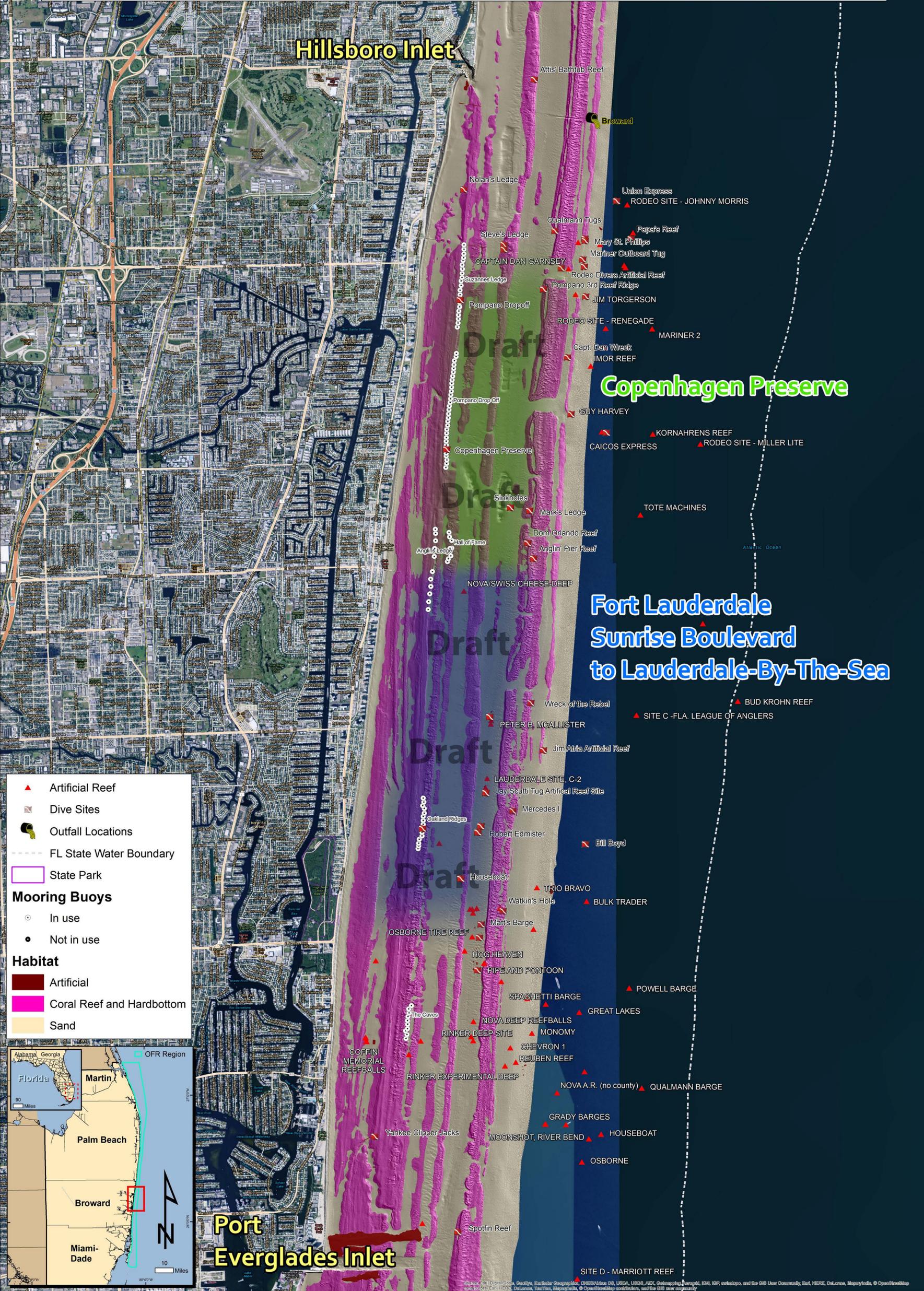


Draft Area of Interest: Fort Lauderdale Sunrise Boulevard to Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, and Copenhagen Preserve



Copenhagen Preserve-

Objectives:

- Protect areas that are unique within the southeast Florida region.
- Protect vulnerable/sensitive species and habitats including Endangered Species Act listed species.
- Protect areas with high % coral cover, density, and/or species richness.

Habitat Background:

- The Community Working Group identified this draft area of interest because of the reef resources and because the area already has some management and special designations within it.
- This area has large dense Staghorn coral patches, which is listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

Human Use Background:

- The Copenhagen itself is a designated archeological site which entails some management already in place.
- There are many mooring buoys in place (and suggestions to place more see recommendation S-2) to prevent accidental anchor damage.
- The Community Working Group believe this is an excellent area specifically for some fisheries management because it is equally far from inlets to the north and south. Therefore it may already not be as popular with fisherman that don't want to travel that far.
- This is a very popular dive area, management would reduce conflict between fishers and divers, that is, fishers may currently not favor this area because of the high diving.
- The community working group members specifically considered this as a good location for management because it can be defined from Pier to Pier in order to have clearly visible landmarks.
- Pier fishing would be allowed and in fact pier fishing should improve.

Questions:

- The Community Working Group members wanted more feedback from the fishing and diving community on this draft area of interest, in particular they wanted to know if/ to what extent it is important for lobstering and baitfish collection?
- The Community Working Group members wanted more feedback from the fishing community on this draft area of interest on how the fishing community uses this area compared to the draft Ft. Lauderdale Sunrise Blvd to Lauderdale-by-the-Sea draft area of interest.

Ft. Lauderdale Sunrise Blvd to Lauderdale-by-the-Sea-

Objectives:

- Protect representative coral habitat.
- Protect areas with high % coral cover, density, and/or species richness.
- Protect 20-30% of coral reefs and each type of associated representative reef habitat in the southeast Florida region from extractive use (no-take).

Habitat Background:

- The Community Working Group identified this draft area of interest because of its uniqueness. It's unique because reef resources have not been as impacted by beach nourishment projects as other shoreline in our region. This is important because this may mean it is an area with less human stressors on the nearshore habitat.
- Hugh Taylor Birch State Park is a relatively native/ natural upland area adjacent to these reefs and so in general there is already less impact from land based sources of stressors.
- This area has many dense Staghorn patches as well as areas of high coral cover and coral density (number of corals per area) on inner reef.
- There are many large live corals (greater than 6 ft wide) in this area that are important to protect for reproductive potential to seed the reef.
- There is also a potential Snook spawning aggregations in this area.

Human Use Background:

- There are easily identifiable landmarks for this area, with a pier to the north and Sunrise Blvd. to the south.
- The area has mooring buoys to safely moor with.
- The area has many popular dive sites.
- There is local support for management of this area from the Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea. Having a local municipality that is supportive of management action may mean the local community supports this effort.

Questions:

- The Community Working Group contemplated that this area could be an either/and option with the John U. Lloyd draft area. They would like feedback on whether you think both areas are important for management consideration or if there is one that addressed the objectives better than the other, and why?
- The community working group members wanted more feedback from the fishing community on this draft area of interest on how the fishing community uses this area compared to the draft Copenhagen Preserve draft area of interest.



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